

Editorial



Dear Colleagues,

From past to present, science has been the foundation of the sustainability of human existence. Science resembles a “carotid artery” that sustains life. This artery is nourished with discoveries and innovative scientific developments. Creativity and imagination form the foundations of discoveries and innovation. Art is another way of expressing creativity and imagination. Innovations and discoveries are artistic expressions of science which require highly arduous efforts. These expressions are materialized in the paintings of an artist, in the poems of a poet, in the laboratory of an inventor whereas for us, the scientists, it is materialized by the quality of the researchers we lead and their scientific publications.

The development index of countries are directly proportional to the quality of the scientific publications published in all fields of science. The quality of a scientific article is determined by the impact factor of the journal in which it is published and the number of citations. By time, in order to evaluate the research performance of scientists, new indicators such as ‘h-index’, ‘h5-index’ and ‘i10-index’ are proposed that determine the publication activity and/or citation effectiveness. The quality of an article is a hallmark which contributes to the reputation, prestige and impact factor of the journal it is published.

In our country, the number of scientific periodicals on cardiovascular surgery that have been indexed in national/international indices is scarce. Whereas our country ranks 11th in the world regarding the number of publications on cardiac surgery, Turkey ranks 6th in the world regarding the number of publications on vascular surgery. Taking into account independent risk factors, our country ranks 30th out of 194 countries in the world with a cardiovascular mortality rate of 47 percent. When we can not provide local researchers a medium for publishing their research articles which has a high impact factor, reputation and prestige, their scientific articles and research activities performed in our country will continue to appear in journals abroad. This vicious circle will decrease the impact factor and citations received by our national journals.

We completed all legal procedures required for the publication of an innovative and original research journal with scientific quality, and up-to-date background that will respond to the needs of the scientists of our country who give priority to both the number and quality of publications in the field of “Cardiovascular Surgery.” The first issue of ‘Istanbul Cardiac and Vascular Surgery Research Journal’ that started its publication life with its outstanding Editorial board consisting of eminent national and international authorities in the field of cardiovascular surgery, and met firstly with esteemed scientists like you, contains a ‘scientometric’ research article having notable outcomes concerning the correlation between scientific activities, and their resultant impact factors with mortality rates with reference to the importance of scientific publications, and number of citations they received. In this study, impact factor which is accepted to be a reliable measurement for the determination of significance of scientific publications was taken as a base. Indeed, impact factors of scientific publications are considered to be important data indicating the number of times these publication have been used by the scientific community representing the relevant field. In this article it was especially aimed to evaluate the relationship between income status of the countries, cardiovascular publication performance, and cardiovascular mortality. Global mortality rates have been associated with scientific impact factor, and income status of the countries.

ISTANBUL CARDIAC AND VASCULAR SURGERY RESEARCH JOURNAL’ will be published at 4-monthly interval as electronic and print versions. The Journal will be an international scientific publication employing double-blind peer reviewing system. Our target is firstly to be listed in national indices (TURKISH ACADEMIC NETWORK AND INFORMATION CENTER ... ULAKBİM etc.) then in international indices. Within this context, specifications required for inclusion in national, and international indices have been started to be fulfilled.

This issue of our journal contains original articles, and rarely seen case reports written by relevant academicians. These articles are available online (<http://icvsr.com/jvi.aspx>)

I express my endless gratitude to you, our readers, and all the authors, and publishing team that spared their time, and efforts for the preparation of the first issue of our journal, and wish that the journal will contribute to the scientific field of cardiovascular surgery.

Prof. İhsan BAKIR, Md MSc